

R U R A L \_ D I S T R I C T \_ C O U N C I L \_ O F

L U D L O W

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH

INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

1973



Rural District Council of Ludlow,  
Stone House,  
Corve Street,  
LUDLOW.

March, 1974.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith a report for myself and the Chief Public Health Inspector for 1973.

As the customary advisory circular about arrangements for an Annual Report was not received in January, we believed we had been correct in assuming that our report for 1972 was our last. But having received a request at the end of February from the Department to produce a report we have done our best in spite of the lack of Vital Statistics. I apologise for the brevity of this report but this seemed to be most desirable at this stage of the reorganisation of both the Health Service and Local Government. Where information is available in the 1972 Report it is not given again here, to save work in preparing detailed statements.

If our Capital Programmes could be carried through as planned the problem of sewerage in Ludlow and most of the villages would be solved and also a large part of the Housing Problem - unfortunately financial crises keep interfering and delaying the plans. There is still a great need for housing in Ludlow and an ever increasing need for Old People's Dwellings in all areas.

Also as I said last year there is increasing need for Sport and Recreational facilities; and the allocation of limited resources between this and sewerage, housing etc. is a very difficult matter.

Gypsies continue to be a nuisance at times and will do so until there are nationwide sites for them.

Rats are an increasing problem because of Warfarin resistance and more staff are needed if the area is to be surveyed properly and treatments given.

The new chlorinator at Church Stretton is due to be in use early in 1974, but this is not the complete answer to the problem of the water supply here. The West Shropshire Water Board has prepared plans, in conjunction with Shrewsbury and Atcham, so that Church Stretton can eventually be linked up to their supply. This will be the solution to the problem and it must not be lost sight of because of the formation of the Regional Water Authority and new Local Government areas.

With changes in the Health Service and in Local Government now imminent, I would like to thank all my colleagues for their help and willing co-operation and to say how much I have enjoyed working with them. I am not sure what the future holds for me in the new Health Service but I do regret having to leave this Local Authority. I am sure that the new Community Physicians will find such co-operation and help as it has been my privilege to receive.

In conclusion I would like to wish Mr. Saunders and Mr. Banks good health and enjoyment in their well deserved retirement and to offer all good wishes to the new District of South Shropshire.

Elizabeth Capper.



## STATISTICS

Estimated Mid Year Population:	23,980
Area in acres:	120,451

The population estimate at mid 1973 is the only figure to be published up to now. The Vital Statistics which have always been presented in previous reports will not be available until April or May, and will be supplied to the new area Health Authority, who will be able to send you duplicate copies.

Births:- there were 158 births registered in the District during the year but this figure is of little use in estimating a birth rate for the year as I have no means of telling how many related to mothers coming in to East Hamlet Hospital and Clun from neighbouring districts and how many mothers from the District went to Copthorne Hospital or other hospitals for their deliveries.

Deaths: taking the numbers directly from notices received from the registrars and from particulars of transferrable deaths the total number is much the same as last year - but the figure of 338 may well prove to be inaccurate when the Registrar General's figures are received.

The chief causes of death are:-

53.6%	- diseases of heart and circulation.
18%	- diseases of respiratory system.
14%	- cancer.

There were 10 deaths from cancer of the lung, this is a slight reduction on last years figure.

Maternal Deaths - there were none.

There was a fall in population of 90 in 1973.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

Apart from the following alterations, these remain as described in the 1972 Annual Report:-

Family Planning Clinics:- Arrangements were completed by the end of the year for a clinic to start at the Child Welfare Centre, Dinham, Ludlow. This will be held on the first Tuesday afternoon in each month and appointments are obtained from the County Medical Officer of Health

National Assistance Act 1948: Section 47

No action had to be taken this year.

### Health Centre

The Church Stretton Health Centre was very nearly completed by the end of the year and should be ready in early March 1974.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following notifications were received:-

	<u>1st quarter</u>	<u>2nd quarter</u>	<u>3rd quarter</u>	<u>4th quarter</u>
Respiratory Tuber- culosis	2	1		
Measles		14	19	



	<u>1st quarter</u>	<u>2nd quarter</u>	<u>3rd quarter</u>	<u>4th quarter</u>
Malaria		1		
Infective Jaundice			1	
Dysentery			1	
Scarlet Fever				1

The cases of respiratory tuberculosis were as follows:-

One female age 48 years.  
 One female age 42 years.  
 One mae age 34 years.

The cases of malaria and dysentery were contracted abroad in Papua and Spain respectively. The one case of infective hepatitis was back in the area of the District in which the disease first appeared: fortunately no other cases occurred.

The number of cases of measles is rather disappointing in view of the great efforts made to try to wipe out this disease by vaccination against it.

The 1972 Report gives more information about vaccination and immunisation.

#### Tuberculosis Register December 1973

Pulmonary	55
Non pulmonary	23
New cases	3
Cured	1

#### Diseases of Animals

6 Notifications of Salmonella infections in animals were received but no human cases were subsequently discovered.

R U R A L \_ D I S T R I C T \_ C O U N C I L \_ O F

L U D L O W

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1973

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the following report on the work carried out in my Department during the year 1973.


It had been expected that a report would be unnecessary, but it has been requested by the Department of Health.

R. F. Saunders.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

March, 1974.

Stone House,  
Corve Street,  
LUDLOW.



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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LUDLOW

Chief Public Health Inspector's Report

1. Staff

There were no changes in the staff of the Public Health Department during the year.

2. Sanitary Circumstances in the Area

(a) Water Supply - Mains Supplies

The frequency of sampling public mains supplies was continued as in previous years.

Summary of samples taken from public supplies for bacteriological examination.

<u>Total Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
241	228	13

(b) Private Supplies

<u>Total Samples taken</u>	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
34	10	24

3. Drainage, Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

(a) Sewer Connections

A few more connections to existing sewers at Church Stretton and Burford were made during the year. Some septic tank effluent disposal systems were replaced where nuisance was being caused by unsatisfactory effluent disposal. The sewer connections were almost completed by the end of the year.

(b) New Schemes

Wistanstow

This scheme was completed during the year.

Wall and Rushbury

This scheme was in progress and nearing completion at the end of the year.

(c) Existing Drainage

A detailed survey of existing drainage was carried out during the year in the various villages in the district.

4. Rodent Control and Supervision

The operative, Mr. C. Langford, continued the work of rat and mouse destruction during the year with satisfactory results.

Six hundred and thirty seven complaints of rats and/or mice were dealt with. This left very little time available for surveying which is so necessary especially in an area from which regular complaints are received. It is essential that more help should be provided for this service; this has been agreed in principle by the Council.

Acute acting poisons were used throughout the whole of the area as a result of Warfarin resistance.

#### 5. Factories and Workshops

The Local Authority deals only with certain aspects of the Factories Acts, namely those relating to health, welfare and sanitary accommodation.

There are 118 factories on the Register - see Annex.

#### 6. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

Particulars of premises registered under this Act are as follows:-

	<u>No. of Registered Premises at end of Year</u>	<u>No. of Persons employed at end of Year</u>
Offices	76	468
Retail Shops	165	551
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	10	93
Catering establishments open to the public and canteens	48	231
Fuel Storage Depots	2	12
	<u>301</u>	<u>1,355</u>

No. of visits of all kinds to registered premises = 158

Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

#### 7. Housing

Number of houses constructed during year.

1. Council Houses	5
2. Private Houses	81

Additional housing units provided by conversions. 20

#### Action under the Housing Acts

The following is a summary of Statutory Action taken during 1973 regarding unfit houses.

Number of houses demolished	7
Number of houses closed under the terms of Closing Orders	2
Houses made fit and Undertakings and Orders revoked	28

8. Caravan Sites and Moveable Dwellings

(a) Caravan Sites

Thirty-three licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 were in force at the 31st December, 1973.

	<u>Residential</u>	<u>Holiday</u>
(a) Individual	18	7
(b) Multiple (more than three)	1	7
	<hr/> 19	<hr/> 14

Number of caravans covered by the licences 468

Number of caravans for residential use 48

Number of caravans for holidays and weekends 420

Twelve contraventions of the Act were dealt with informally.

(b) Gypsies and Itinerant Traders

The number of caravans used by gypsies, tinkers and itinerant traders varies very little. The Salop County Council are arranging for the provision of sites, but none have yet been provided in South Shropshire.

9. Informal Notices Served

Drainage	10
House Repairs	21
Food Hygiene	36
Water Supply	11
Means of Escape in case of Fire	1
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	23
Slaughterhouses (Hygiene)	14
Caravans	12
Air Pollution	3
Factories Acts	2
Rodent Control	0
Miscellaneous	10
Noise Abatement	3
	<hr/> 146

Most of these Notices had been complied with by the end of the year, exceptions being notices served late in the year.



10. Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Meat Inspection

Number of licensed slaughterhouses in the district 2

M.S.F.(Meat) Ltd. at Craven Arms and  
C. Jones and Son at Ludlow.

The arrangement started some years ago, whereby the Meat Inspectors at Craven Arms assist with meat inspection at the Ludlow slaughterhouse, was continued.

(b) Statement of Animals Killed and Inspected

	<u>Cattle</u> <u>(ex. cows)</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Goats</u>	<u>Total</u>
Number Killed	4,768	364	129	15,222	56,112	5	76,600
Number Inspected	4,768	364	129	15,222	56,112	5	76,600

All Diseases except  
Tuberculosis and  
Cysticercus Bovis

Whole carcasses condemned	20	41	29	33	394	-
Organs or parts condemned	793	200	7	3,031	5,441	-
Percentage Affected	17.05%	66.21%	27.91%	20.13%	10.3%	

Tuberculosis Only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Organs or parts condemned	-	-	-	17	-	-
Percentage Affected				0.11%		

Cysticercus Bovis Only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Organs or parts condemned	8	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage Affected	0.17%					

Weight of meat condemned = 83,862 lbs. = 37.43 tons.

(c) Food Premises

The Department of Health and Social Security has asked for the number of food premises, subject to the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1970 to be given in categories of trade. These are as follows:-

Hotels, Public Houses and Guest Houses	98
Grocers and General Stores	63
Cafes and Restaurants	28
School Canteens and Kitchens	36
Village Halls etc.	31
Butchers	19
Confectioners	7
Clubs etc.	16
Grocers/Greengrocers	4
Greengrocers	8
Bakehouses	7
Food Factories and Wholesalers	4
Sweet Shops	14
Factory Canteens	6
Fish and Chip Shops	6
Garages, selling ice cream or sweets	11
Wet Fish Shops	3
<u>TOTAL =</u>	<u>361</u>

In general the standard of food premises was satisfactory.

(d) Poultry Inspection

Production at The Grove has continued to increase. Rejection of birds is carried out by "spotters" at various points on the lines. The majority of rejects are removed immediately after de-feathering. Suspect batches are retained by the Production Manager for inspection by a Public Health Inspector. High standards are set and maintained, regarding both the rejection of birds and the hygiene of the premises.

There is one small producer in Ludlow with whom arrangements are also made for a Public Health Inspector to inspect suspect birds as necessary.

Particulars of Poultry Killed and Inspected

<u>Type</u>	<u>No. of Birds Killed</u>	<u>No. of Birds Rejected</u>	<u>% of Birds Rejected</u>
Broilers	9,669,015	66,521	0.69
Hens	5,431	77	1.42
Capons	197,566	6,285	3.18
Turkeys	1,516,983	39,570	2.61
Totals =	11,388,995	112,453	

(e) Condemnation of Food

Some preserved and canned foods were inspected and found unfit for human consumption. These foods were disposed of following voluntary surrender.

In addition to these foods there were condemnations of poultry as mentioned under (d) and meat as mentioned under (b).



11. Knackers Yards

Conditions at the two yards in the district continue to be satisfactory.

12. Swimming Baths

Regular bacteriological water samples are taken from the Council's swimming bath at Dinham and the Salop County Council's open air baths at Cleobury Mortimer and Church Stretton. It was found that the samples were generally satisfactory.

Conclusion

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all the staff of my Department for their work and cheerful co-operation during the year.

*H. J. Saunders*

Annex to the Report for the Year 1973

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	-	-	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities.	118	9	2	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total =	118	9	2	-

2. Cases in which defects were found  
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two or more "Cases").

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to HM Inspector (4)	By HM Inspector (5)	
Inadequate ventilation S.4	1	-	-	1	-
Sanitary Conveniences S.7 (b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	1	-
Total	2	1	Nil	2	Nil

Part VIII of the Act

Outworkers

(Section 133 and 134)

3.

Nature of Work  (1)	Section 133				Section 134	
	No. of Outworkers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwhole- some premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prose- cution (7)
Wearing ) Making apparel ) etc.	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Brass and brass articles	18	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Textile weaving	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total =	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



